

Federal Matching Funds Needed for New Court House

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With the recent acceleration of government aid to depressed areas by President Johnson chances for a new county court house are much improved, according to Commissioner Walter Montgomery.

Wasatch County has been taxing a 1½ mill levy for court house improvements for the past several years. This fund was begun under the leadership of former commissioner Guy E. Coleman.

Total funds now held by Wasatch County due to the mill levy and accrued county sales taxes amounts to \$96,592.97. This amount is presently drawing interest and will soon exceed \$100,000, according to Montgomery.

Application for federal funds for the new court house has been in Washington, D. C., for over two years. The application has been approved but action has not been forthcoming due to lack of Federal funds. The new acceleration by President Johnson will make funds available.

All architectural work has been completed by Lorenzo A. Young, Salt Lake City architect.

Estimated cost of the new court house and jail will exceed \$225,000.

According to Wayne C. Whiting, county clerk and recorder, the construction of the present court house was started in about 1878 with additions up to and including the 1921 addition. Entrys in the county records show cost of the original building at \$8,793.40 and \$600 for furniture.

Commissioners who held the title of "Selectmen" during the original construction era were: John Watkins, William Nutall, George W. Clyde, Alva J. Alexander, Joseph R. Murdock and Hyrum Cummings.

Commissioner Montgomery will consult with Federal authorities in Salt Lake City next Monday in an attempt to update the court house application and speed up the proposed construction.